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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

2862 (203-3506)

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.6)

To Be Assigned

10/529568

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/US2003/031653

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

06 October 2003

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

04 October 2002

TITLE OF INVENTION

TOOL ASSEMBLY FOR SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Frank J. Viola

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:


1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☒ A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825.
18. ☐ A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information: **Return Postcard, Cert. of Express Mail**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) To Be Assigned 10/529568		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US2003/031653		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 2862 (203-3506)	
The following fees have been submitted				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee..... \$300				\$ \$300.00	
22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)..... \$100 All other situations..... \$200				\$ \$200.00	
23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority..... \$100 International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office..... \$400 All other situations..... \$500				\$ \$500.00	
TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 =				\$ \$1,000.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		
- 100 =	/50 =		x \$250	\$	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(h)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	20 - 20 =	0	x \$ 50	\$ \$0.00	
Independent claims	3 - 3 =	0	x \$200	\$ \$0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) 0			+ \$360	\$ \$0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ \$0.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.					
SUBTOTAL =				\$ \$1,000.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ \$1,000.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$ \$40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ \$1,040.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Amount to be charged:	\$ \$1,040.00
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>21-0550</u> in the amount of \$ <u>\$1,040.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>21-0550</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
U.S. Surgical, a division of TYCO Healthcare Group, LP 150 Glover Avenue Norwalk, CT 06856 Telephone: (203) 845-1000 Fax: (203) 845-4266					
 SIGNATURE Mark Farber NAME Reg. No. 34,159 REGISTRATION NUMBER					

032805

17224

U.S. PTO

10/529568
JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 MAR 2005

PTO/SB/17 (12-04v2)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Effective on 12/08/2004.

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2005

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) \$1040.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
First Named Inventor	Frank J. Viola
Examiner Name	Unknown
Art Unit	Unknown
Attorney Docket No.	2862

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____

☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 21-0550 Deposit Account Name: U.S. Surgical Corp.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	\$1000.00
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

Multiple dependent claims

Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
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50 25

200 100

360 180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
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20 - 20 or HP = 0 x 50 = 000

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
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3 - 3 or HP = 0 x 200 = 000

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

Multiple Dependent Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
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3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
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25 - 100 = / 50 = (round up to a whole number) x 250 =

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Recording Patent Assignment

Fees Paid (\$)

\$40.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	<i>Mark Farber</i>	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 34,159	Telephone 203-845-1059
Name (Print/Type)	Mark Farber, Vice President, Intellectual Property		Date 3/28/05

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Docket: 2862

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frank J. Viola
Examiner: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Serial No: To Be Assigned Filed: Concurrently Herewith
For: **TOOL ASSEMBLY FOR SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE**

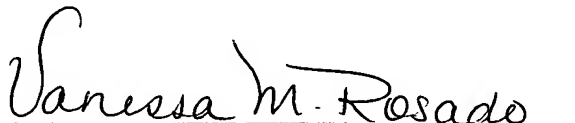
CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No.: EU 799732776US
Date of Deposit: March 28, 2005

I hereby certify that the following:

- ☒ This Certificate of Express Mailing
- ☒ Transmittal Letter to the U.S. Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Filing Under 35 USC 371
- ☒ Fee Transmittal
- ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Executed Patent Assignment for Recording
- ☒ Recordation Cover Sheet
- ☒ A patent application consisting of 20 pages of abstract, specification and claims
- ☒ 5 sheets of ☒ formal ☐ informal drawings
- ☒ Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney
- ☒ Return postcard

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR Section 1.10 on the Date of Deposit indicated above in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Vanessa M. Rosado

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